

FAMILY HISTORY

—OF THE—

 JOHNSTONS, 

HONS, HUGHES,

BROWNS, SULLIVANS, KNIGHTS,

AND OTHERS.

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## GRAYVILLE, ILLINOIS,

March 25th., 1898.

THINKING, after being requested many times, to try to give my many friends a short history or genealogy of our parents as best I can, I will say my father has been dead near fifty years; mother fifty-three years. Father was born in Ireland, County Down; his father died when father was a small boy. The family being poor, they had many hardships to go through; their mother helping them as best she could. As they grew up to manhood and womanhood they scattered as most families do. Some came to America. One brother settled in Scotland; of that I will mention hereafter; his name was Alexander.

My father's name was James Johnston. Father married when young, when his first child was three weeks old, he set sail for America. After a long and tedious journey of nine weeks, they landed at Baltimore, Md., I think in August, 1785.

I have heard my father speaking of his brothers; but I do not remember of hearing him speak of his mother's name or his sisters. I would not say positively that he had any sisters. I have often heard him speak of his brothers; their names, as I remember hearing them, were John, Mathew, Alexander and James. After a short stay in Maryland, father removed to Pennsylvania, and there he remained thirty years. For some years he followed

teaming from Philadelphia to Pittsburg across the Alleghany Mountains, delivering goods for the merchants. I have heard him say he had six heavy teams at one time. During the war of 1812 the Government pressed into service most of his best teams, while they were engaged in war in Virginia, about Hampton and Norfolk and around in that country.

Alexander Phillips and Samuel Hughes were born and grew to manhood in Pennsylvania, and took part in the war above mentioned. They married my father's two oldest daughters. Phillips married the oldest - Nancy; Hughes married the next oldest - Mary. I will speak of them hereafter.

I will speak of the great Eclipse of the Sun that took place June 16th, 1806. Father has often told me of the occurrence; he said he was teaming on the road when the eclipse came on and the sun soon shut in, and darkness came on, and the stars shown plainly. He sat down by the roadside until it passed off, then journeyed on his way. There are many events I wish to speak of, but I must write of them as I can think.

Friends, please pardon for a long skip of time and years. I will say that this, sixth day of April, 1898, is my 55th. wedding day, but my heart is sorrowful to-day; my dear companion passed away on July 22, 1897; her place can never be filled. Now I will continue to write as I can call events to mind.

As I have stated, Phillips and Hughes came

out to Illinois in about the year 1815. Phillips settled at the place where J. E. Clifford now lives. Caleb Clifford, father of Edward Clifford, purchased the farm Alexander Phillips owned for many years, and Phillips purchased same farm from my Grandfather Brown. Some 65 years ago Phillips-town was laid out in town lots and several houses were built. The first store was put up by a company called Switt & Litchenberger, and a blacksmith shop carried on by Truman Johnston. The above named Samuel Hughes came to this state about the same time that Alex Phillips came, and settled in the same neighborhood. Those two men wrote to my father of what a fine country they had found; so he soon came to White Co., Illinois. My father came to Illinois I think in 1817.

For the present, I will try to give a short sketch of my mother and her connection. Mother was born and lived in Mulberry Co., Ky. Her maiden name was Brown; she had two brothers — John and Daniel. There were five sisters. The oldest married a man by the name of Allison; her name I do not remember; she died before I was born. Mother's name was Susan, then Nancy, Fannie and Sarah, the youngest. Mother married (in Ky.) a man by the name of Jacob Hon. The Browns, Hons and Stewarts all came here in the year 1812 or 1813. Mother was left a widow with eight children, four boys and four girls. When father came here, he was a widower, the father of seven children,

four sons and three daughters. Two daughters married back east, as I have stated before; so when father came here he had four sons,—William, John, Samuel and James, and one daughter,—Jane.

Mother's children were —Daniel, Catherine, Mary, Jonas & John, (twin brothers,) Sarah, Malinda and Jackson. After father had been out here a few months, he and mother were married; after they were married they moved to Evansville, Ind., or nearby. In that locality my oldest sister, Eliza was born. I and a twin sister were born August 28, 1821. Margarette and Susan were born in Kentucky, opposite Evansville, Ind. From what I have heard my father say, I would suppose that there were no buildings there only small log huts; but times have changed, for it is quite a large city now. Shortly after the birth of my sister Susan my parents returned to White County, Illinois, near Phillips town, now is; there is the first place that I have any recollection of; there two brothers and two sisters were born,—Elizabeth, David, Fannie and George W., but of all these all have passed away except sister Fannie and myself.

I will speak of Major Phillips, as he was always called. As far back as I can recollect he was an officer in his regiment. I suppose they were in the cavalry. I have seen his sword or saber and his pistols; they were double barrel that back; they would look queer in these days. Now I will give the names of the Phillips family. The oldest was Mary.

then David, Alice, Nancy, Alexander, James and Thomas Shanon. All have passed away except Shanon—he may be living yet; he emigrated to California in 1850. David died there and Nancy died on the way; she was the wife of Cephus G. Hughes. David married, but his wife died in just a few years. One child was born to them—a boy, who died on the way to California, also. Mary married David Lucas; they had a family of four girls,—Nancy Jane, Frances, Mary Ann and Dorcas. Nancy Jane (living) married James Coles (living). Frances (living) married Jerry Brown (dead). Mary Ann married Fred Williams. Dorcas (dead) married Casey Jones (dead); they had one son and two daughters. Nancy Jane's children were three sons and four daughters their names — Carrell, William, Edward, Cynthia, Hellen, Isabella & Della. Frances Brown's family sons,—Franklin, Charles, Willis & Cary; girls,—Lucy and Ella.

Now I will try to give a short sketch of Samuel Hughes' family. He married my second half-sister, Mary. They had three sons older than myself. I will name the children the best I can call to mind: James M., Oliver P., Alexander, Christopher C., Samuel, Thomas L., Margaret, Mary Ann, & Susan. All have passed away except Christopher; he may still be living; he with many others emigrated to California in 1850 or 1851; I am not sure of the date. James M. married Dilla Ann Bidwell (dead); Their heirs were Nancy J., Samuel, Oliver P., Margaret,

Mary Ann and Rosey. Oliver P. married Vandalia Davis (living); their children were, Theodore (dead), James K., Thomas (dead), George, John, Mary J. and Elizabeth. Alexander married Jane Stanley (dead); their children are Sarelda, Margaret, Mary, Elizabeth, Thomas, Luke, Brum and David.

Christopher C. married Julia Ann Calkins; they were the parents of two sons, Joel Hume & ———

Margaret married Redman Sullivan (dead).

Samuel married Sarah Whiting (dead); left no heirs.

Thomas married Amanda Bidwell; their children were, Samuel, Christopher, Frederick, David, Lewis, Cordelia, Susan, Dilla and Lucinda. Susan married William Knight; their children were,—James, Samuel, Charles, Lambert, Lawrence, Harriet, Margaret, Lucinda and Mary.

Now, I will mention my half-brother, William Johnston's family. He married my half-sister, Catherine Hon. I will name their children the best I can; there were Nancy, Jane, Jonathan, Jacob, James, William, Samuel and Daniel. The oldest daughter married Ezekiel Russel; he had one son by his first wife. Nancy's children were Daniel, Elihu, Ezekiel, Solomon, Thomas, John, Terrisa, Minnie, Selia, Mary and Elizabeth. My half-brother, Daniel Hon married Sarah Winkler; their children were Lewis, Carson, George and Martin; by second wife, Nancy Johnston, two sons and two daughters; third wife, one daughter, Fannie. Jonas Hon, my half-brother, married Elizabeth Winkler; their children were

John, Daniel, Solomon, Sarah, Lucinda & J. McLean. John Hon and Jonas were twin brothers. John married Mahalia Boultinghouse. I will mention their children the best I can. The oldest was Daniel, then Jacob, James, Jackson, Emily and Fannie.

Emily married Andrew McCreary; left no heirs. Emily died in Arkansas. Fannie married Jackson Blackford; she died in Arkansas, also. She had offspring, but I can not name them. Jackson Hon is still living at this date—April 12, 1898.

My half-brother, Jackson Hon, married Elizabeth Stuart; they went to Arkansas about 65 years ago. His wife died there. Some years after, he married the second time, at my house in Phillipstown, to a widow Calihan. To them one son was born; that is all I know of. His name was John Calihan. Jackson's first wife left some heirs, but I have but little knowledge of them. His third wife was a widow Thomas Hanks. To them was born two heirs, Daniel and Catherine. Jackson's third wife died and he married a woman I never saw, neither do I know her name. Jackson has been dead several years.

My mother's oldest daughter married my father's oldest son; they were my half-brother and half-sister, but they being step brother and sister, and yet no blood relation. As I have given you the history of them I need not repeat it.

My next oldest half-sister on mother's side was Polly Hon; she married Dennis Boultinghouse; they had one son that I know of; his name was Jacob.



They, also, went to Arkansas when I was a small boy about fifteen years old; so I have but little knowledge of them.

Sarah, my next oldest half-sister, married Wm. McHenry; he treated her so mean that they soon separated; then Sarah got a divorce, and some years after married John Boultinghouse; they had several children, but I think most of them are dead.

Malinda Hon, my youngest half-sister, married Daniel Allison; they had two sons: Zachariah and Alexander. The parents both died when the boys were small, so Jack Hon and Daniel Boultinghouse took them to Arkansas. I never saw them after that.

Now, I will mention father's second son, John Johnston; he married Polly Wilson; they settled in Posey Co., Ind., near Old Springfield. They lived and died on a farm where Oliver Station now is. They had several children. I will mention them as I can call to mind. There was Lee, Alexander, John and Sally Jane; All have pass away but John; he lives in Arkansas. I know nothing of his family. Alex had two daughters that I know of, but do not know if they are living or not. Sally Jane married Harris Jones; he died in the Army; they had three daughters. Sally afterwards married James Murphy; they have both passed away. Sally had one son by Murphy. He died some years ago; his name was James. Two of the Jones girls are still living. Cassy married Remeely Murphy, and Josephine married Marian Childers.

My half-brother, Samuel Johnston, lived a batch-

clor; he led rather a roving life; he helped drive cattle for men who came here from Ohio and other states to buy cattle and drive away; then he worked on a snag boat that was employed on the rivers to clear out all snags and obstructions. Samuel married an old lady when he was of considerable age.

My half-sister, Jane Johnston, married John Tate. After marriage they lived in Edwards Co., Ill. and both died there. Their family, as far as I can recollect, was five sons and four daughters. The sons were Lionel, John, William, Carol and James. The daughters were Mary Ann, Sally, Elizabeth and Martha. Lionel and Martha are all that are living at this time, April 14, 1898.

James Johnston was the youngest of my father's first set of children. All were born in Pennsylvania, except sister Nancy; she was born in Ireland. James was married to Mary Coles about sixty-five years ago. Mary was the daughter of Samuel Coles, a grandfather of Henry S. Coles and all of his brothers and sisters. Their parents were William and Rachael Coles. Wm. Coles died forty-five years ago. Aunt Rachael, as she is called, still lives and is in her ninety-third year.

The children born to James and Mary Johnston were three sons and one daughter. Their names were James A., Samuel, George W., and Nancy Jane. James A. married Mary Hoover, daughter of Peter Hoover. Their living children are David, Fannie, Viola and Otis W.; those that are dead I cannot call to mind. Samuel Johnston married Mary Whiting, daughter of

William and Margaret Whiting. Mary was a cousin to my wife. Their living children are David, Samuel and Mary. Those that I recollect that are dead are Maggie, Ida and Laura. Samuel had two boys by second wife; their names are George and Elmer. There are several dead that I cannot call to mind. George W. died when small and was buried near Philipstown. Nancy Jane married Anthony Armor. Their offspring are as follows: William, Samuel, Virginia, Rose Ann, Mattie and several dead.

Well as I have spoken of all my father's first set of children, and also of mother's first set, I will now state that I was the first of my father's last set of children that lived to be of age. I was married to Virginia E. Whiting, oldest daughter of Ead. Charles and Selma Whiting, April 6, 1843. I will give the names of my children. First, Elizabeth Ann; second, Melissa D.; third, Susan Selma; fourth, Charles M.; fifth, James E. O.; sixth, Sarah Ellen; seventh, Fannie H. A.; eighth, John A. L. Melissa and Selma passed away many years ago. Elizabeth married James J. West in 1863. Their oldest, Elonzo, married Elizabeth Hawthorne. Harriet married William Hawthorne. Melissa married Herman Fisher. Charles N. married Mattie Hawthorne. Mary married John Hawthorne. Two of the children died years ago.

Charles M. married Mary More in 1880; she died in a short time after, then Charles married Josephine Gray, in 1887. They had two sons and two daughters: James Alexander, Charles, Niere V. and Nellie.

James E. O. married Mary Miller, in 1880. Mary died in Texas in 1882. Harry, the son of first wife, is still living. James, some years after, married Minnie Kelley; her maiden name was Sullivan. They have one daughter, Zella, eight years old.

Sarah E. married John Glasco in 1876. Afterwards married George Curtis; they have one girl, Minnie, and three boys. They now live in the state of Oregon.

Fannie H. A. married Spencer Malone; they have two daughters, - Nancy and Ethel, - and two sons, Charles Alexander and Lewis Franklin.

John A. L. married Mary Alice Johnson in 1890. They have two sons, Loren Alexander and Everett John.

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## GROSSVILLE, ILLINOIS,

March 12, 1900.

The foregoing is the writing of Uncle Alex Johnston, who started to write a complete history of the Johnston family, but owing to bad health and his sudden death, which occurred at Grayville, Ill., July 16, 1898, (he was 76 years, 10 months and 19 days old.) he never finished what he intended to do. Therefore I will try, with my poor knowledge of history writing to complete what Uncle left undone. As he gave the history of his immediate family, I will commence with Aunt Susan Johnston, she being the next oldest of my father's brothers and sisters. She *never married* she died at my father's house three miles west of

Grayville, Ill., in the year of 1878; her age is not known.

The next oldest was my father, David Johnston. He was born in White Co., Ill., Sept. 20, 1827; married Matilda J., daughter of William and Margaret Whiting, Nov. 15, 1850. Mother was born in Fayette Co., Ky., Jan. 11, 1835. To them nine children were born—five sons and four daughters. The sons were Wm. H. James E., David W., John E. and Charles A. The daughters were Margaret V., Mary F., Lydia E. (died in infancy) and Adah M. I will try to tell who they married. W. H. married Mary J. Mallet. Her maiden name was Solomon; she was the daughter of Willoby and Catherine Solomon. They were married Apr. 28, 1873. Their children are Cordelia, by Mary's first man, Chester F. (dead), Lillie M., John H., Ida B. and Sarah J. Cordelia Mallett married William Ramsey. Their children are Clorenia, Mary and Benjamin F.

Margaret V. married Jacob E. Holloman, March 25, 1877. Their children are George W., David C., Florence M. (dead), Lewis A. and Clarence C. Jacob E. Holloman died Jan. 29, 1894. Margaret died Jan. 18, 1898.

James E. married Addeline Rawlinson, daughter of William Rawlinson, April 28, 1880. Their children were Lawrence E. (dead), James F. and Charles J. James E. died Aug. 9, 1887. Addeline died May 8, 1888.

Mary F. married Eugene Endicott, in Mar., 1883. Their children are Chester D. and Charles J. Mary died June 8, 1887. Eugene died Feb. 28, 1896.

David W. is not married, and stands a poor chance

to ever become a family man.

John E. married Hortense B., daughter of Emeline Shadle, April 4, 1888. Their children are Jesse D., Archie H. (dead), Charles R., Flossie M., Sylvia C. and Fannie A.

Adah M. married W. T. Wilson, May 10, 1896. His children by first marriage are Eva May, Lulu E., and Hulah B.

Father died December 14, 1896.

Aunt Fannie married Sylvester Jones; (date not known.) Their children were - Annie, by first wife, Josephine, John and Minnie. John and Minnie are dead. Josephine married Alfredo Carpentier. Their children are Charlie and Frances; both are married. Annie married Felix Hammel. Their children are Clarence E., Blanche, Grace, Charles, Sylvester, (dead), John and David. Aunt Fannie is living in South Dakota at time of this writing.

Uncle George W. never married; he died when he was about grown.

I have tried to write a history of my father's family, and how well I have succeeded I will leave you who read this to be the judge. There were some dates I could not learn, but have put down most of them.

Hoping this history will be useful to all the relation, and that they will appreciate what our dear Uncle Alex has written, I will close by wishing you all success in any honorable undertaking, I remain

Yours Very Respectfully,

David W. Johnston.

NOTE. — Since the above was written and placed in the hands of the printer, David W. Johnston, the author of the latter part of this work, was married to Miss Ida May Stinnett, of Hopkinsville, Kentucky. They were married November 28, 1900. Mrs. Johnston is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Stinnett.

That Mr. and Mrs. Johnston may live a long and happy life is the wish of the

**Publisher.**

